

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 05915 030804Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02
 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
 USIA-15 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ORM-02 DHA-02 MCT-01 /096 W
 -----030806Z 052858 /17

R 301552Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6529
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS PRETORIA 5915

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: WA, AO, SREF
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: MORE REFUGEES FROM ANGOLA

1. AFTER SOME WEEKS OF RELATIVE QUIET, A NEW FLOW OF
REFUGEES FROM SOUTHERN ANGOLA INTO NAMIBIA APPEARS TO HAVE
TAKEN PLACE DURING CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS. PRESS AND TELEVISION
REPORTS INDICATE PERHAPS 700 OR MORE, PRIMARILY KWANYAMA
WOMEN AND CHILDREN, HAVE SOUGHT REFUGE IN OVAMBOLAND.

2. INTERVIEWS WITH REFUGEES INDICATE THAT MPLA IS MAKING
EFFORT TO CLEAR 3 KM. WIDE "CASTRO CORRIDOR" ALONG BORDER
WITH OVAMBO. REFUGEES SAY THAT FAMILIES AND VILLAGES ARE
BEING FORCIBLY EVICTED, AND ANY WHO RESIST ARE BEING KILLED.

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3. SAG HAS MADE NO OFFICIAL COMMENT YET ON THIS NEW
FLOW OF REFUGEES. MILITARY SPOKESMEN CONTINUE TO INDICATE
CONFIDENCE IN THEIR ABILITY TO DEFEND THE BORDER AREA
DESPITE A FEW RECENT INCURSIONS WHICH HAVE INVOLVED KID-
NAPPINGS OR MURDER, APPARENTLY OF OVAMBOS SUSPECTED TO
BE SERVING SAG AS INFORMERS. SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES HAVE AT

LEAST OCCASIONALLY BEEN ENGAGED AND THERE HAVE BEEN CASUALTIES.
THE MOST RECENT PUBLISHED DEFENSE HQ. REPORT OF DECEMBER 21
ANNOUNCED THE DEATH THAT WEEK OF A CITIZEN FORCE CORPORAL
"IN A SKIRMISH IN THE OPERATIONAL AREA." A TERRORIST WAS
ALSO REPORTED KILLED.
BOWDLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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